



# Gearing Up For Your Transitions

## THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

### *Where Can I Live?*

*Special Thanks to the Northern Virginia Housing Alliance for allowing use and an adaptation of their Lesson Plans - "There Is No Place Like Home."*

### **LESSON 3**

Lesson 1 and 2 discuss and begin to define community and affordable housing. Today focuses on real incomes and housing costs in the community, showing students where they can and cannot live based on certain incomes, and potential solutions for those forced to live further from their jobs.

#### **I. Activity 1 - Briefly discuss previous lessons (5 minutes)**

- Define community
- Likes and dislikes of your community
- Select two students to read a journal entry
- Options on how to handle different allowances (based on day two)

#### **II. Activity 2 - Work in Career Groups, Budgeting (10 minutes)**

- Ask students to move into one of the five career groups. (1. Waiter/Waitress 2. Doctor 3. Executive Secretary 4. Correctional Officer 5. Hairstylist)
- Assign appropriate salaries based on Lesson 3 data. Place appropriate salary table tents on each table or set of desks.
- Introduce pie chart discussion (what percentage of salary should be allocated to housing?) Have each group make their own pie chart. Answers: Housing (30%), food (25%), fun (3%), health (4%) transportation (10%) utilities (8%) clothing (5%) savings (8%) insurance (7%)

#### **III. Activity 3 – Where Can I Live? (35 minutes)**

- Students are asked to work through math problems to determine how much their salary can afford them and where they can live in the Metro area.
- Use 30% from above to work through math problem as follows:
  - 1)  $\text{Salary} / 12 \text{ months} = \text{Monthly Income}$   
 $\text{Monthly Income} \times 30\% = \text{Housing Allowance}$

- 2) Teacher introduces map and explains range of numbers on each region based on rental price of 1 bedroom condo
- 3) Students place unique identifier in each region where their career can **afford** them to live on the map. Lesson 3 MAP of Delaware
- 4) Discuss solutions for the lowest earnings group (i.e. get a roommate, live with family members) and advantages/disadvantages of living far from work.
- 5) Discuss how it feels to be limited and not limited in where you live. Example Discussion: People who live in New Castle County (Region 3) – where do you eat and shop? A person working there is the waitress that lives in Sussex County (Region 1). Wow, they have to commute all the way New Castle (Region 1). What are those disadvantages? Disadvantages: long commute, weather conditions, frustration, road rage, less time with friends, family, entertainment. Reference issues on Page 2.

\* Additional option is for students to write journal entry about how they feel concerning the affordability of the counties in Delaware.